

ton and Lee University, on "Calvin's Contribution to Educational Progress." The thanks of the assembly were extended to Dr. Denny by a rising vote.

Rev. Dr. Lumpkin made a report on Theological Seminaries, which was received and adopted.

Dr. M. W. Moore, chairman, made a partial report from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, as follows:

The Committee on Bills and Overtures respectfully submits the following report:

1. Overtures from the Synod of Louisiana and the Presbytery of Mississippi asking the General Assembly to transfer the churches of Liberty, Rose Hill, Centerville, Woodville, Hoyt Memorial, Unity and Bethany, all in the State of Mississippi, together with the territory embraced in the counties of Amite and Wilkinson, in the State of Mississippi, from the Synod of Louisiana to the Synod of Mississippi, so that the boundaries of the Synods may coincide with the boundaries of the States.

Answer: The Assembly hereby transfers the churches named and the territory described, together with the ministers included, and the candidates from these churches from the Synod of Louisiana to the Synod of Mississippi.

2. Overtures from the Presbytery of Roanoke, asking the Assembly to send down to the Presbyteries for their approval and amendment to Chap. XV, Sec. II of our Rules of Discipline as follows: Strike out the words "be required" in the eighth and ninth lines of said Sec. II., so that the clause shall read, "The Court whose bounds he has left shall transfer them."

Reply: The Assembly answers in the negative.

3. Overture from the Presbytery of Atlanta, asking the Assembly to interpret Book of Church Order, paragraph 93, with specific reference as to whether the installation of a pastor may with propriety and with fidelity to the constitution be executed by a committee.

Reply: This Assembly answers, as did the Assembly of 1896, that the Form of Government (Chap. V, Sec. 7, pars. 92 and 93) requires that a pastor should be installed only by the Presbytery or by a Commission of the Presbytery.

4. The Presbytery of Asheville overtures the Assembly "to amend the Book of Church Order, Chap. V, Sec. 6, par. 2, by adding the following words: 'The Moderator of each Assembly shall be a member ex officio of the next succeeding General Assembly, representing the Church at large, and his necessary expenses shall be paid by the Assembly.'"

Answer: The Assembly has no power to do what it is here requested to do.

5. Overture from Washburn Presbytery, touching the employment of non-ministerial members of the church in the work of collecting and disbursing the money that is required for the conduct of all the work of our Assembly.

Answer: Since the Assembly has at present financial and executive agents who are not preachers, and is committed to the policy of selecting from its general membership, eldership or diaconate, available and efficient men to conduct its financial affairs (see printed Minutes of 1908, p. 33), no further action is necessary.

6. Overtures from the Presbytery of Charleston, from the Presbytery of Chesapeake, and from certain individual ministers asking the appointment of an ad interim committee of not less than five members ("memberships on the same to be preferably given to professors of theology in our seminaries"—Charleston) to consider the whole matter of the reception of polygamists into the Church, and to report to the Assembly of 1910; and overtures from the Presbytery of Missouri, asking the Assembly to take steps to so alter the Confession of Faith in Chap. XXIV, pars. 5 and 6, as to harmonize their teachings as to what are lawful grounds of divorce, and from the Presbytery of Knoxville, asking the appointment of an ad interim committee to investigate the teaching of the Scriptures touching divorce and remarriage for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the Confession of Faith (chapter XXIV) is in accord with the Word of God, and to report the result of their investigation to the General Assembly of 1910.

Answer: The Assembly, through its Moderator, appoints an ad interim committee of five to consider the matters referred to, and to report to the Assembly of 1910.

7. Overture from the Presbytery of Winchester, asking the Assembly to make a deliverance in regard to the doctrine of Christian Science, warning the Church against the evil,

subversive character of said doctrine to the Christian religion.

Reply: The Assembly relying upon the positive teaching of the great principles of our faith as the best protection of our people against vagaries of the kind referred to, does not think such a deliverance necessary.

8. Overtures from the Synod of North Carolina, asking the Assembly to send down to the Presbyteries for their adoption certain changes in our form of government having in view the making of a Synod a Court in regular graduation.

Answer: Your committee, at the suggestion and request of representatives of the Synod of North Carolina present in the Assembly, recommends that the Assembly, through its Moderator, appoint an ad interim committee to consider all the matters referred to in this overture and report to the Assembly of 1910.—Dr. Johnson, Chmn.

9. Overture from the Presbytery of Mobile, asking the Assembly "to make such change in chapter III, Sec. III of our Confession of Faith as will eliminate the appearance of fatalism, and thus enable us the more successfully to commend our doctrine to the favorable consideration of our fellow men."

Answer: The Assembly declines to propose the change suggested, for the reason that the section referred to, when read in connection with the other parts of the Confession, furnishes no ground for the charge that it has even the "appearance of fatalism."

10. Overture from the Presbytery of Edmore touching the validity of Roman Catholic baptism.

The Assembly answers, that in view of the repeated deliverances of the Assembly in 1845, 1871 and 1884, further action is deemed unnecessary.

11. Overture from the Presbytery of Memphis, asking the Assembly to define the sphere and limits of women's work in the Sabbath school and in Synodical and General Assembly Sabbath school institutes.

Answer: In the judgment of the Assembly, such a deliverance is not necessary.

12. Overtures from the Presbyteries of East Mississippi, Upper Missouri and Mangum, asking the Assembly to take such action as will allow each and every congregation throughout its bounds, by their own vote, to adopt the rotary system of Church officers; a communication from the Presbytery of Paris, reporting its refusal to join in said overtures; and an overture from the Presbytery of Central Mississippi, asking the Assembly not to favor such overtures, should they be sent.

Answer: The Assembly declines to take any action looking to the adoption of the rotary system of Church officers.

Adjourned with prayer until tomorrow, at 9:30 a. m.

Sixth Day—Wednesday Morning.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Donald McQueen.

The minutes of yesterday's meeting were read and adopted.

The report on the narrative was read by Rev. J. N. Holliday.

The Foreign Mission report was read by the chairman, Dr. R. C. Reed. It was placed on the docket for consideration at 10:30 tomorrow.

It is brought to our notice in the Executive Committee's report that the missionaries in the field, while deeply impressed with the need of more workers, are at the same time deeply impressed with the importance of a high standard of qualification for the workers. They believe, and it would seem reasonably, that the last place for weakening is on the foreign field. There are complex problems of all kinds, and pressing for solution. Where foundations are being laid, where policies are being planned, where mistakes in the present will tell disastrously upon the indefinite future, the prime need is for men of sagacious judgment, of fine administrative ability, of statesmanlike qualities of leadership.

It is also gratifying to note that the Executive Committee are purposing, with the approval of the Assembly, to raise the standard of qualification, and thus secure for our foreign work choice and winnowed workers. They lay down the following rules to be rigidly adhered to, except in extraordinary cases:

"First. In the appointment of ordained missionaries, physicians and male teachers, the committee will endeavor to be even more careful than heretofore in maintaining the high standard of qualification required in our Manual.

"Secondly. No single lady, other than a

trained nurse, will be appointed who has not had the equivalent of an A. B. or B. S. degree from a reputable college and also, in addition to that, at least one year of special training for the special line of work for which she is appointed."

Your committee are persuaded that the Assembly will not only approve of these rules and their rigid enforcement, but would further approve of the Executive Committee adopting an age limit, especially for female applicants, refusing, except in very extraordinary circumstances, to give an appointment to an applicant who is over thirty-five years of age.

The Executive Committee have had the valuable service of Rev. D. Clay Lilly for the past two years without any expense to the committee's treasury. His salary has been provided for a year to come, and it is recommended that the Assembly hereby express its approval of the committee's continued employment of Dr. Clay Lilly during the next twelve months.

The complaint of H. C. DuBose against the Executive Committee for approving the action of the Mid-China Mission in uniting in certain school work with the Central China Mission has been carefully read by your committee. While conceding to Dr. DuBose the best of motives and willing to allow full weight to his many objections to the action of his fellow-workers in the matter complained of, it seems to your committee that without a fuller knowledge of all the interests involved, and the way in which these interests are to be affected by the action of the Mid-China Mission, it would not be wise for us to act as judges. We would recommend, therefore, that the Assembly decline to sustain the complaint of Dr. DuBose.

The letter from Rev. Messrs. Geo. Hudson, W. H. Hudson and others of the Mid China Mission reveals the fact that our missionaries find great difficulty and suffer much anxiety about securing for their children the opportunities of education. Good schools on mission territory are few and very expensive. The same may be said of good governesses—they are few and very expensive. It seems a necessity that the missionaries, if they are to educate their children at all, must send them at a tender age to this country. Here again the expense is very great, and the concern of parental hearts for their children so far removed from their parental care, is very keen. Your committee feel that the condition of our missionaries in respect to this matter merits the sympathy of the Assembly, and that the Assembly should show a readiness to do all that it can to relieve the situation. Your committee, therefore, recommend that the Assembly appoint an ad interim committee of three to canvass thoroughly the whole subject of the education of the children of our missionaries with a view to ascertain precisely what our Church is doing, whether it can and ought to do more, what other churches are doing in this line; in a word, to inform themselves fully on every aspect of the subject, and report to the next Assembly.

Arrangements are being made for a world missionary conference to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 14-24, 1910. The purpose of this conference will be to promote in every way the enterprise of world evangelization. Our Church is entitled, according to the basis of representation laid down by those who have the arrangements in charge, to seventeen delegates. Your committee nominates the following persons to attend this conference, the delegates to pay their own expenses:

Ministers—Principals: Rev. W. R. Dobyns, D. D., Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D., Rev. J. M. Wells, D. D., Rev. A. B. Curry, D. D., Rev. Thornton Whaling, D. D. Alternates: Rev. S. M. Neel, D. D., Rev. W. H. Marquess, D. D., Rev. R. O. Flinn, Rev. J. H. Taylor, Rev. Robert Vinson.

Laymen—Principals: James Sprunt, C. E. Graham, C. A. Rowland, A. J. A. Alexander, M. McH. Hull. Alternates: W. D. McKown, Jackson, La.; J. L. Howe, Lexington, Va.; H. W. Malloy, Wilmington, N. C.; H. C. Ostrum, C. H. Pratt.

Missionaries—Principals: Rev. P. F. Price, Rev. W. D. Reynolds, Rev. R. E. McAlpine. Alternates: Rev. H. C. DuBose, Dr. T. H. Daniels, S. P. Fulton.

Women—Principals: Mrs. Elizabeth P. Allen, Charlotte, N. C.; Mrs. Jno. D. Knox, Anniston, Ala.; Mrs. Champ Clark, Washington, D. C. Alternates: Mrs. J. C. Stewart, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. R. L. Hickman, Texarkana; Mrs. J. C. Tims, Tampa, Fla.

Executive Committee—S. H. Chester.

Your committee recommend that the Assembly instruct its Executive Committee to have prepared from pictures on hand, and to be secured from the various fields in which our Church is at work, stereopticon slides, to be loaned to pastors and Presbyterial chairmen for their missions, for use in illustrating missionary addresses; that the committee endeavor to induce Presbyterial chairmen to secure good lanterns and to system-